GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Revenue (SS&LR) Department – Smt. K.Jhansi Rani, the then RDD, S&LRs, Kurnool & presently Deputy Director (Hq), O/o the Commissioner, Survey Settlements and Land Records – Disciplinary proceedings initiated under rule – 20(2) of APCS(CC&A) Rules, 1991 – Joint Collector, Kurnool appointed as Enquiry Officer – Enquiry Report received Communicated to the charged officer - let off with a warning to be more careful in future – Orders – Issued.

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REVENUE (VIGILANCE – I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 697 Dated: 30-09-2024

Read the following:

1. Proceedings of the CCLA, A.P., Rc.No.H1/600/2014, Dt.24.11.2014.
2. Proceedings of the CCLA, A.P., Rc.No.H1/600/2014-1, Dt.20.03.2015.
3. Proceedings of the CCLA, A.P., Rc.No.H1/600/2014-2, Dt.06.07.2016.
4. From the Inquiring Authority cum Joint Collector, Kurnool, Inquiry report, Rc.No.A5/1712/2017, Dt.15.07.2020.
5. Commissioner, SS&LR, A.P., Lr.No.Rc.No.L2/600/2014, Dt.12.08.2020.
6. Govt., Memo No. SURS0SSLV(DISC)/6/2020-VIG-I, Dt.02.09.2022.
7. From Smt., K.Jhansi Rani, DD (Hqs), SS&LR Dept., Explanation, Dt.02.10.2022.

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ORDER:

In the Proceedings, 1st read above, disciplinary proceedings were initiated by Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., against Smt.K.Jhansi Rani, the then RDD, S&LRs, Kurnool & presently Deputy Director (Hq), O/o the Commissioner, Survey Settlements and Land Records, A.P by framing Articles of Charge under rule - 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991. The articles of charges is as follows: "Smt. K.Jhansi Rani, the then Assistant Director, Central Survey office and at present working as Regional Deputy Director, S&LRs, Kurnool, While working as Assistant Director, CSO paid an amount of Rs. 75 lakhs to M/s Jyothi Computers for digitization of Tippons of Karimnagar and Nalgonda districts without conducting quality check as per the agreement. Though more than 8 years have elapsed, the project was not taken to a logical conclusion and the data was not validated or utilized. Hence, she is guilty, neglected and not formed her legitimate duties in the matter under rule 3(1)(5) of APCS Conduct Rules 1964".

2. In the reference 2nd and 3rd read above, the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., has ordered for regular inquiry and appointed Joint Collector, Kurnool as inquiring authority and Sri A.Venkateswara Rao, Deputy Director (HQ) as presenting officer, since the individual has not submitted any written statement of defense.

3. In the reference 4th read above, the inquiring authority cum Joint Collector, Kurnool has submitted his inquiry report duly holding that the article of charge framed against the charged officer as “Partially upheld”.

4. In the reference 5th read above, Government, have communicated a copy of the inquiry report, to the charged officer to submit her explanation, as required under rule – 21(2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991.

5. In reply, the charged officer has submitted her representation vide reference 6th read above and stated that the charges framed against her are frivolous and belated and biased in nature and requested to drop charges framed against her.

6. Government, after careful examination of the matter, have observed that failure of non-service of AOC to the charged officer for more than 4 years, though she was working under the control of same Disciplinary Authority. Abnormal delay of 8 years in initiating the disciplinary proceedings is against the principals of Natural justice. The AO was neither the cheque issuing authority nor cheque signing authority on that day. The AO has not made any recommendation for payment. Regarding payment made in 3rd interval it was recommended by two other senior higher cadre officers in the department. Thus it cannot be attributed to AO.

(P.T.O)

The period of charge subject was 2006-07. But charges were framed after a lapse of 8 years. Appointing a junior officer as presenting officer is against to CCA rules. In conclusion it is noticed that there may not be specific involvement of the charged officer in releasing the funds as she is not the competent authority with cheque issuing power. As seen from EO findings there is no specific mention of the proven guilt of the charged officer.

7. Accordingly, Government have decided that, the AO may be given benefit of doubt and she may be let off with a warning to be more careful in future.

8. Accordingly, Government hereby order to "let off with a warning to Smt.K.Jhansi Rani, the then RDD, S&LRs, Kurnool & presently Deputy Director (Hq), O/o the Commissioner, Survey Settlements and Land Records, A.P., to be more careful in future".

9. The Commissioner, Survey Settlements and Land Records, A.P., shall take necessary further action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

R P SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (LANDS, R&S)

To
Smt.K.Jhansi Rani, the then RDD, S&LRs, Kurnool & presently Deputy Director (Hq), O/o the Commissioner, Survey Settlements and Land Records, A.P (through Commissioner, Survey Settlements and Land Records, A.P., Mangalagiri.
The Commissioner, Survey Settlements and Land Records, A.P., Mangalagiri.
Copy to:
The PS to Special Chief Secretary to Government (Lands), Revenue Dept.
The OSD to Hon'ble Minister for (Rev, R&S)
SF/SC.

// FORWARDED::BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER